(e) if so, the number of such units proposed to be set up in that State; and

(f) the details of steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) The location of the public sector basic drug units in the country is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below) All the companies are BIFR referred companies.

(b) to (f) There is no proposal to set up any new drug unit in the country including in the State of Orissa.

Statement

1. *Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited*
   Rishikesh (Uttar Pradesh)
   Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
2. *Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.*
   Pimpri (Maharashtra)
3. *Bengal Immunity Limited*
   Baranagar (West Bengal)
   Dehradun (Uttar Pradesh)
4. *Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.*
   Calcutta (West Bengal)

Surplus Gas in Tripura

146. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that surplus gas is available from ONGC sites in Tripura;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to use the surplus gas as

feedstock for fertilizer and methoenoal production; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to jointly assess the possibilities with ONGC/GAIL/Government of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) The present availability of gas from the fields of ONGC in Tripura is to the extent of 3.0 million standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD). As against this, the total allocation in 1.8 MMSCMD.

(b) and (c) A High Level Monitoring Committee on Production and Utilization of Natural Gas in Tripura has been constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas comprising members from Government of Tripura, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Department of Fertilizers, ONGC, GAIL, EIL and Hon'ble Members of Parliament. Government of Tripura has also constituted a Parallel Task Force for utilization of natural gas in the State of Tripura.

Efforts for making productive use of the available gas in Tripura in various fields including fertilizer production are afoot at the level of the Government of India as well as the State Government.

Sick Units of IDPL

147. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector units of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Ltd. (IDPL) have fallen sick;

(b) if so, the reasons for their sickness;

(c) the number of employees in each unit of IDPL;

(d) whether these employees have not been paid their salaries and other allowances;

(e) if so, since when; and